

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

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W. Walker
 (CP)
Japan file 23
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Address Official Communications to
 American Embassy,
 Tokyo.

June 25, 1952.

My dear Thayer:

I discussed with Vernon Setser the proposed FCN provision on fair labor standards contained in your letter of June 6, 1952. After having participated in two meetings with the Foreign Office negotiators, Setser indicated that he agreed with me that this provision should not be presented at this particular time. The Japanese, as you know, have been most sensitive concerning the possibility that our draft was tailored for Japan, and they have been most critical of any apparent departure from the text of our published treaties.

I sincerely believe that the introduction of the new provision at a time when we seem to be nearing final identification of the negotiating points would re-open discussion on many matters we now hope are acceptable to the Japanese. Frankly, I believe that the Japanese may consider this provision to be critical of their present standards, and that they will seek our "ulterior" motive in establishing a treaty obligation which might be detrimental to Japan's future interests.

I fully appreciate the intent of the proposed provision and believe that it has merit. We will therefore present the proposed provision to the Japanese as soon as an appropriate occasion arises. The timing must be carefully considered, as you know, since I would be most unwilling to delay or endanger the so-called "final review meetings" (now scheduled for about the end of June). It is my impression - in which Setser concurred - that we can discuss the new provision with the Japanese near the end of the final review meetings when all other major issues will be nearly settled and the negotiation points identified.

Mr. C. Thayer White,
 Acting Officer in Charge, Economic Affairs,
 Office of Northeast Asian Affairs,
 Department of State,
 Washington, D.C.

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I trust the Department will consider favorably our position on this point, relying on us to raise this provision at the most propitious time. It would place us in a difficult position if we were to be instructed immediately and formally to present the provision to the Japanese. Please rest assured that we will do so as soon as practicable, and that every attempt will be made to secure its acceptance by the Japanese.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Frank

Frank A. Waring
Counselor of Embassy
for Economic Affairs

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